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FOI/PA
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Civil Action# 14-cv-00019

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ACTION AF-01

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	SRPP-00	EAP-01	EUR-01	FBIE-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01	PA-02
	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/020W	

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R 071254Z SEP 95

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1209

INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY HARARE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

b3 -1 per FBI
b7E -8 per FBI

Mandela-1338

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY BEIJING

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

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TAGS: PGUV, SF

SUBJECT: WINNIE MANDELA IN THE NEWS

1. SUMMARY: ~~DURING~~ THE PAST WEEK ESTRANGED FIRST LADY WINNIE MANDELA HAS FEATURED PROMINENTLY IN THE NEWS. A TELEVISED INTERVIEW FROM THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES HIGHLIGHTING HER MARITAL DIFFICULTIES HAVE ONCE AGAIN PLACED HER IN THE SPOTLIGHT. A RELATED FRONT PAGE NEWS STORY IS THE YEAR OLD RUMOR THAT ~~PRESIDENT MANDELA~~ WANTS TO MARRY FORMER MOZAMBIKAN FIRST LADY GRACA MACHEL. END SUMMARY

2. NEVER FAR FROM THE LIMELIGHT, WINNIE MANDELA IS ONCE AGAIN IN THE PRESS AFTER BEING TEMPORARILY SIDELINED BY ILLNESS. HER MARITAL DIFFICULTIES, AND HER PARTICIPATION IN THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE HAVE GIVEN THE PRESS NEW GRIST FOR THE MILL. IN BEIJING, THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS INITIALLY FOCUSSED ON THE STIR WINNIE CAUSED BY ARRIVING ONE AND A HALF HOURS LATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONIES, BEING REFUSED ENTRY BY CHINESE OFFICIALS, AND EVENTUALLY DEPARTING WITHOUT RECEIVING ADMISSION -- OR AN EXPLANATION. THERE WAS ALSO CONFUSION OVER WHETHER SHE WAS ACCREDITED TO REPRESENT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT OR AN NGO AS PRESIDENT OF THE ANC WOMEN'S LEAGUE.

REPRESENTING THE GRASS ROOTS FROM THE MAIN VENUE.

5. ON THE ANC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: THE PRESIDENT OF THE ANC WOMEN'S LEAGUE BLAMED DIVISIONS WITHIN THE LEAGUE ON CONTINUING THIRD FORCE ACTIVITIES. (IN FACT, A FORMER THIRD FORCE OPERATOR, PAUL ERASMUS, RECENTLY ADMITTED ON TELEVISION THAT WINNIE WAS THE TARGET OF A SMEAR CAMPAIGN BEFORE AND AFTER THE KILLING OF STOMPIE SEIPFI.) SHE DISMISSED AS FALSE RUMORS THAT THE LEAGUE IS "FINISHED" AND CALLED ON ALL SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN TO UNITE AGAINST CULTURAL AND POLITICAL EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE THEM.

6. ON THE GNU: UNBOWED, WINNIE REITERATED A STATEMENT WHICH PREVIOUSLY ELICITED REBUKE FROM HER HUSBAND, THAT "THE ANC IS IN GOVERNMENT BUT NOT IN POWER". SHE ALSO EXPRESSED STRONG RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION, ARGUING THAT IT WOULD ULTIMATELY BE A "FARCE" OPEN TO ABUSE BY

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THIRD FORCE OPERATIVES WHO WOULD DOCTOR STATEMENTS, AND MAKE FALSE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE ANC. HOWEVER, SHE THEN ATTACKED UNSPECIFIED PERSONS WITHIN THE ANC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WHO SOLD OUT THE STRUGGLE, AND ANC AND NP MEMBERS OF CABINET WHO BECAME INVOLVED IN THIRD FORCE ACTIVITIES. MRS. MANDELA PROMISED MORE REVELATIONS TO FOLLOW.

7. ON THE PERSONAL FRONT, THE PRESS IS HEADLINING SO FAR UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS BY PRESIDENT MANDELA'S LAWYERS TO SERVE DIVORCE PAPERS ON WINNIE, AND CLAIMS THAT THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO MARRY FORMER MOZAMBIKAN FIRST LADY GRACA MACHEL. THE DIVORCE WOULD BE BASED ON AN IRRECONCILABLE BREAKDOWN OF THE MARRIAGE. WINNIE SUPPORTERS CLAIM THAT THE DIVORCE IS A POLITICAL ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE HER. SHE HAS SAID THAT HER HUSBAND CAN LIVE WITH WHOMEVER HE WANTS BUT SHE WILL NOT GRANT HIM A DIVORCE... STAY TUNED.

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